



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

MARSHALL FISHER
COMMISSIONER

August 12, 2016

Andre' de Gruy
State Defender
Office of the State Public Defender
239 North Lamar Street, Suite 601
Jackson, MS 39201

RE: NOTIFICATION OF RID REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

Dear Mr. de Gruy:

Pursuant to state law, the Mississippi Department of Corrections has replaced the Regimented Inmate Discipline Program, or RID, with a new program, entitled Recidivism Reduction Program, or RRP, effective July 1.

RRP includes Thinking for a Change, a cognitive behavioral therapy model that has been proven to be effective in changing criminological thinking patterns. The National Institute of Corrections (NIC), from which MDOC personnel have received training, created Thinking for a Change.

RRP overall has five program components designed to rehabilitate the offender through education, vocation, cognitive behavior therapy (mental and social), Alcohol & Drug (A & D) and pre-employment. A needs assessment will be administered to determine applicable programming for each offender. The programs are designed to be implemented in six months.

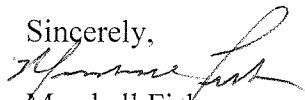
MDOC is offering RRP at the Rankin County Satellite Facility in Flowood for female offenders, with 28 available beds, and at the South Mississippi Correctional Institution (SMCI) in Leakesville for male offenders, with a 100-bed capacity.

As one of the state's pilot agencies for performance-based budgeting, MDOC is required to offer evidence-based programs. Data show RID has been ineffective at reducing recidivism. Therefore, under House Bill 906 approved in the 2015 Mississippi Legislature, MDOC has ceased offering RID.

Anyone assigned to RID on or before July 1 will be considered a RID graduate. Anyone assigned to RID on or after July 1 has been placed in RRP. And, upon completion, the offender's certificate will be from RRP.

If you have further questions, please contact me or Deputy Commissioner Jerry Williams at (601) 359-5606 or Deputy Commissioner Christy Gutherz at (601) 359-5618.

Sincerely,



Marshall Fisher
Commissioner